Augmentation of Security with CCTV at IGIA

12. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

(a) whether installing of Closed Circuit TV (CCTV) has helped to augment security at Indira Gandhi International Airport apart from keeping an eye on airport officials and touts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) the Close Circuit Television (CCTV) system installed at Indira Gandhi International Airport is in the process of being fully operationalised, and is, *inter alia*, expected to augment the security arrangements also.

Export growth in dollar terms

13. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the negative growth of 2.3 per cent in India's exports during the first five months of the current year has created a panic in the country;

(b) if so, to what extent this negative growth continued during the financial year of 2001-2002;

(c) whether there was a respectable growth in exports in rupee terms;

(d) if so, whether the exports have registered a negative growth in dollar terms during the period April to August, 2001;

(e) if so, the main reasons for the same; and

(f) the details of steps being considered by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (d) No, Sir. the export performance for the period

April-October, 2001-02 was negative at 2.88%. However, the performance of export turned positive at 0.64% for the period April-December, 2001-02 for which the latest data is available. In rupee terms exports, during April-December, 2001-02, were Rs. 154445 crores which is 5.05% higher than the value of exports during April-December, 2000-01. During April-August 2001 export growth rate in dollar term was (-) 2.30%.

(e) The lower export growth is mainly due to the global economic slowdown and the impact of the Sept. 11 events and its aftermath.

(f) Some of the recent measures taken to promote exports include reduction in the export credit rate for both pre-shipment and post-shipment, special financial package to manufacture exporters with an export contract of Rs. 100 crore or above for a period of one year, extension of normal repatriation period from 180 days to 360 days for exports for a period of one year and upward revision of duty draw back rates on a number of product groups. All this and other factors have helped to arrest the declining trend in exports experienced during the early part of the current financial year.

Further, taking Stock of the developments in the recent past and considering the current global economic environment, the Medium Term Export Strategy for the period 2002-2007 has been announced.

Disposal of Piled-up Tobacco

14. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether tobacco stocks piled-up two years back have since been disposed of;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the role of the tobacco Board in view of adverse weather conditions this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Tobacco manufacturers, exporters and dealers are